--- “Series of 1915” - 3 Cigars - 285 x 12 mm ---

--- *recess printed* BLACK *die proof* - *without* an imprint - scanned at 60% scale ---

The Budget of 1908 had abolished the distinction between cigars made from *foreign* and from *domestic* leaf tobacco with a unified tax of $ 2.00 per pound on cigars, while retaining the extra tax on ‘small size’ packages of less than ten cigars at a rate of $ 3.00 per pound.

In 1914, probably because of the onset of first World War, these rates were raised to $ 3.00 per pound on large packages, and to $ 4.00 per pound on packages of less than ten cigars.

★**RG-556 DP** - 3 cigars, a one-piece black die proof, mounted on thin cardboard - the design measures 285 x 12 mm. ---
[inscribed ‘*A.A. 191*’ in black ink - the engraver‘s initials, plus a work order?]

The catalogue lists the recess printed three cigar “Series of 1915” black strips as follows:

RG-556 - 3 cigars, black, on vertical mesh wove - 4½ mm red control numbers
RG-558 - 3 cigars, black, on horizontal mesh wove - 4½ mm blue control numbers

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--- *recess* printed on *vertical mesh* wove - with 4½ mm. *red controls* - 279 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

★**RG-556** - 3 Cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on *vertical* mesh wove, control number **0337745**,
roller cancelled **5-10-D** by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal

0037745★	RG-556	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove, roller cancelled **5-10-D** by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal

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The Budget of 1918 increased the excise tax on packages of less than ten cigars from $ 4.00 to $ 7.00 per pound. The change in control colour from red to blue on the three cigar size may have had been related to this excise tax increase.

The switch from “Inland Revenue” codes to the “Customs & Excise” coding was made in November 1921, and “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal, changed from **13-17** to **5-10-D**. Thus it seems that the ***red*** control numbered strips were still available in 1921-22, and probably there is no ***violet*** control numbered three cigar “Series of 1915” strip.

--- recess printed on *vertical mesh* wove - with 4½ mm *blue controls* - 275 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

★**RG-558 SP** - 3 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on *vertical* mesh wove, control number **0000000**

--- recess printed on *horizontal mesh* wove - with 4½ mm *blue controls* - 281 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

★**RG-558** - 3 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on *horizontal* mesh wove, control number **0064018**,
roller cancelled **5-10-D** by "Tuckett Tobacco", Montreal - [the design measures 281 x 12 mm]

★**RG-558 SP** - 3 cigars, black, *coarse roulette,* on *horizontal* mesh wove, control number **0090006**,
stamped ***Sample*** in violet ink - [the design measures 281 x 12 mm]

0000000★	RG-558 SP	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove - 275 x 12 mm, with seven zeroes in right panel only
0064018 ★	RG-558	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on *horizontal* mesh wove - 281 x 12 mm, roller cancelled **5-10-D** by Tuckett Tobacco, Montreal.
0090006 ★	RG-558 SP	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on *horizontal* mesh wove - 281 x 12 mm, stamped ***Sample*** in the cancellation panel

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In a memorandum to *D. Sims, Esq.* (Deputy Minister of National Revenue, Customs and Excise) dated June 14th 1944, *L. A. White* and *C.R. Coombs* record the destruction of CBN cigar rolls No. G-498 and G-499, for the "Series of 1915", three cigar, 281 x 12 mm. strip.

In a similar memorandum, dated June 8th 1944, they record the destruction of plate No. 1 for the three cigar, "Series of 1915", 281 x 12 mm strip - the Lee Brandom **RG-556**. [information from Chris Ryan]. This 20 impression plate was probably arranged - 1 x 20 strips. JBH.

In the memorandum to *D. Sims, Esq.* (Deputy Minister of National Revenue, Customs and Excise) dated June 14th 1944, *L. A. White* and *C.R. Coombs* record the destruction of the ABN die F-57 for the 281 x 12 mm. three cigar strip of the "Series of 1915 " - the Lee Brandom **RG-556**.

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1915 \ 3 cigars - 280 mm strip],
in MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 17th 2013, JBH